

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /071 W  
-----036585 230659Z /15

R 221322Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1711  
INFO 7206 ABG HELLENIKON AB GR/DPC  
HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE/DPCI  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN  
HQ AAFES-EUR MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, ELAB, GR, US

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF DEFENSE COMMENTS ON LABOR RELATIONS

1. DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF RECENTLY DEFENDED IN PARLIAMENT THE LABOR RELATIONS' POLICY OF AMERICAN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN GREECE. AVEROFF'S STATEMENT WAS IN DIRECT RESPONSE TO A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION SUBMITTED BY TWO PANHELLENIC SOCIALIST MOVEMENT (PASOK) DEPUTIES FROM CRETE IN WHICH THEY CRITICIZED THE TREATMENT OF GREEK PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT THE USAF INSTALLATION NEAR IRAKLION.

2. AVEROFF'S REPLY READ: "GREEKS EMPLOYED AT AMERICAN BASES ARE PROTECTED BY GREEK LABOR LAW. YET THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE WORK PERFORMED SOMETIMES BECOMES THE CAUSE OF DISPUTES AND CONTROVERSIES BETWEEN AMERICAN SUPERINTENDENTS, WHO HAVE DIFFERENT ATTITUDES TOWARD THEIR WORK, AND THE GREEK EMPLOYEES. THESE (DISPUTES) ARE SYSTEMATICALLY EXAGGERATED BY THE EMPLOYEES' UNION AND PRESENTED AS VIOLATIONS AND ABUSE OF LABOR LAW. THE MAJORITY OF EMPLOYEES AT THE AMERICAN BASES ARE SATISFIED  
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AND DO NOT WISH TO LEAVE THEIR WORK."

3. COMMENT: AVEROFF'S REFERENCE TO THE EMPLOYEES' UNION WAS PROBABLY PROMPTED BY THE FACT THAT THE PASOK DEPUTIES' QUESTION WAS BASED ON AN INFLAMMATORY UNION BULLETIN ISSUED TWO MONTHS AGO PROTESTING THE SEPARATION OF SIX GREEK WORKERS AT IRAKLION AS AN ECONOMIC MEASURE. BOTH AVEROFF AND DEPUTY

FOREIGN MINISTER STAVROPOULOS EXPRESSED TO US THEIR PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE CASE AT THE TIME, AND WERE THEN SATISFIED WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF GREEK LAW HAD BEEN MET OR SURPASSED.

4. THE UNION PRESIDENT TOLD THE EMBASSY LABOR ADVISOR ON JULY 21 THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING MAKING A REBUTTAL TO AVEROFF, BUT APPEARED CONCERNED THAT EXAGGERATIONS BY UNION--A TACTIC CONSIDERED ROUTINE IN GREEK MANAGEMENT-LABOR RELATIONS--HAD BEEN USED BY THE OPPOSITION IN AN ATTEMPT TO EMBARRASS THE GOVERNMENT.

MILLS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR, LABOR RELATIONS, POLICIES, LAW  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Subject:** MINISTER OF DEFENSE COMMENTS ON LABOR RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** MARR, ELAB, GR, US, (AVEROFF, EVANGELOS)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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